

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The Applicant thanks the Examiner for the Office Action dated October 1, 2004.

DOUBLE PATENTING

Claim 1 of the Applicant's copending US application no. 09/693,301 has been amended such that its claims are no longer coextensive in scope with the claim of the present application.

In view of this amendment to claim 1 of the Applicant's copending US application no. 09/693,301, it is submitted that the double patenting rejection in respect of the present application should be withdrawn.

IDS

The Applicant submits new IDS herewith to replace the previous IDS filed on August 9, 2000.

It is respectfully submitted that all of the Examiner's objections have been successfully traversed. Accordingly, it is submitted that the application is now in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and allowance of the application is courteously solicited.

Very respectfully,

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